AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. to 6. canceled

7. (currently amended) A method of preparing a high-refractive-index optical silicone oil having a refractive index of from 1.45 to 1.50 at 25 °C, comprising reacting a C_8 to C_{12} aryl-containing olefin with a pentasiloxane having the formula:

$HMe_2SiO(Me_2SiO)_3SiMe_2H$

in the presence of a supported platinum catalyst~~The method according to claim 5~~, wherein the pentasiloxane is prepared by a nonequilibration reaction between hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane and 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane in the presence of an acid catalyst.

8. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the acid catalyst is hydrochloric acid or trifluoromethanesulfonic acid.

9. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the mole ratio of 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane to hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane is from 0.7:1 to 10:1.

10. (original) A method of preparing a high-refractive-index optical silicone oil mixture having a refractive index of from 1.45 to 1.50 at 25 °C, comprising reacting a C_8 to C_{12} aryl-containing olefin with a mixture comprising a pentasiloxane having the formula:

a1

$HMe_2SiO(Me_2SiO)_3SiMe_2H$

and a disiloxane having the formula:

$HMe_2SiOSiMe_2H$

in the presence of a supported platinum catalyst,
wherein the pentasiloxane is prepared by a nonequilibration reaction between hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane and 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane in the presence of an acid catalyst.

11. (original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the acid catalyst is hydrochloric acid or trifluoromethanesulfonic acid.

12. (original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the mole ratio of 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane to hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane is from 0.7:1 to 10:1.

a2

13. (new) The method according to claim 7, wherein the aryl-containing olefin is styrene or α-methylstyrene.